

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve 2013 Bear Program Report

A Sub-adult Story: The Trials and Tribulations of the Tempestuous Teenager *By Christopher Behnke, Tania Lewis, and Katja Mocnik*



Glacier Bay Bear Team members try not anthropomorphize and rarely name bears so as to protect their identity and prevent creating an illusion that these wild animals are actually tame and thereby possibly condoning the petting and cuddling of anthropomorphized bears by visitors. This subadult black bear, however, is likely the same overtly comfortable and human-habituated bear that kept the Bear Team on their toes in Bartlett Cove throughout the summer of 2013.

Front Country Bears 2013: Bartlett Cove Developed Area

The summer of 2013, a stark contrast to the previous cold and rainy year, was marked by numerous sunny days and warm temperatures. Strawberries and nagoonberries appeared plentiful but blueberries were scarce. High numbers of pink salmon ran up the Bartlett River and sockeye and coho salmon also appeared plentiful. The 2013 season for bears in Bartlett Cove was defined by subadults. The vast majority of management interactions in the Bartlett Cove area were with one 3-4 year old subadult, a black bear who displayed remarkable comfort around humans.



*A subadult black bear imbibes upon umbels such as *Angelica lucida*, *Heracleum lanatum*, and *Conioselinum chinense*. These plants are sometimes called “sea-watch,” “cow-parsnip,” and “pacific hemlock parsley.” We avoid the colloquial names however, because people from different regions can have different names for the same plant, or the same names for different plants. Plus, Latin is rad!*

Human habituated bears have learned that people are not a threat and tolerate people at close distances. This can have both negative and positive consequences. Habituation enables people and bears to use some of the same areas (great for bear-

viewing!) and evidence suggest that habituated bears are usually less aggressive toward humans. However, these bears are also at a higher risk of coming into conflict with people because of their close proximity to human developments and people. If people are not careful with their food and garbage, habituated bears can become food conditioned (ie. learn to look to people for food). Habituation, particularly in a subadult bear, can also lead to behaviors that make people uncomfortable, such as approaching as close as 5-10 feet to assert or test their dominance. People need to be reminded that these bears are not tame but are wild animals that deserve healthy respect. Conversely, it is important to teach subadults that they should not approach people. The Bear Team does this with hazing (moving the bear by yelling) or aversive conditioning (applying a negative stimulus when the bear exhibits unwanted behavior).



Our first encounter with a habituated subadult black bear was in early June. The bear defiantly began to gnaw on a tire in the maintenance yard, and was subsequently hazed. The bear featured a thick spring coat which kept him warm during winter hibernation.

It can be difficult to reliably identify individual bears, especially black bears, which require an experienced eye to differentiate between subtle physical differences in

rapidly changing ursine pelage. Putting it simply, bears look really different over time. Bears molt annually in the spring, shedding both their fine insulating underfur and long guard hairs. After shedding, bears appear sleek with a fine summer undercoat. Their new coat is growing in during molting, and by the fall, bears have thick luxurious coats again.



By mid-June, after the sunshine began to cook us all, we began to regularly see this subadult, who despite our best intentions acquired the informal name of "Shaggy" due to his hirsute pubescent posterior. His coat had degraded into a tattered mess starting with his rear. In defense of our militantly non-anthropomorphic Bear Team, the name has been used ever since to refer to specific behavioral characteristics of a subadult black bear and not to every sub adult black bear we might see. We reserve the right to be uncertain about a bears true identity, however, "Shaggy" is easier to say than "The-dominance-testing-three-to-four-year-old-subadult-black-bear."

The subadult gained notoriety when it entered a lodge room on July 1. A housekeeper had been cleaning the room and had left the room for 15 minutes with the door open to air it out. The housekeeper was walking back to the room when the bear

stuck its head out of the door. She called out for help and the bear ran out of the room and climbed up and over the railing. Luckily, the bear did not do any property damage inside the room and did not get into the garbage or a food reward. The bear only investigated the bag of dirty linens that were on the walkway outside of the room. We were able to find the bear shortly afterwards and monitored and hazed it while it remained in the vicinity of the lodge, at times under the buildings. The lodge room and boardwalk area is a complex area for bear management and has since earned the name “the maze” because it is difficult to direct a bear and give it a clear exit route. The bear responded well to each verbal hazing and eventually moved off. After this incident, we started gathering more reports from the weekend where possibly this same bear had been seen around the park housing area exhibiting behaviors suggesting that it may have been looking for food opportunities. A bear had left paw prints on a truck with a window half open, on a front door and had knocked over a barbeque. We do not know if this bear had already acquired human food in the past, but bears are quick learners and it just takes one incident for bears to start associating people with food. In response to this incident, the NPS Bear Committee formulated recommendations for lodge operations to minimize the potential for future bear-human conflicts, including keeping lodge rooms closed and attractants such as garbage and coffee off of the cleaning carts.

On July 3rd, the bear went under the lodge staff cafeteria after the bear team hazed it away from investigating a basketball. The bear may have been seeking cover, although black bears generally climb trees when they are stressed. It seemed fairly comfortable under the building and after throwing some rocks, the bear came out but managed to sneak back under a second time. Again rocks did the trick and we monitored the bear as it moved off to the campground. Two days later the bear was again under the same building and law enforcement rangers responded. The bear did not move with yelling and rocks so the rangers shot a rubber slug at its rump which effectively sent the bear running. The negative stimuli of the rubber bullet, combined with the cleanup underneath the building may be the reason we did not see the bear under that building again. We increased our roving efforts and spent many days and multiple hours monitoring and hazing this bear through July. The goal was to keep the bear out of trouble in the hope that if it didn’t find any human food rewards, it would grow out of this behavior. We also wanted to dissuade the bear from approaching or getting too close to people so anytime the bear approached us directly, we applied an uncomfortable or painful stimulus, providing a negative consequence for such behavior. The subadult displayed dominance testing with hop charges and stomping the ground as we tried to keep it off of trails and parking lots. This was not tolerated

and met with returned dominance from the Bear Team with aversive techniques such as yelling, rushing at the bear, a spraying a supersoaker water gun, a bull whip cracked on the ground, or throwing rocks. Repeatedly, the subadult was taught that approaching people, especially people with squirt guns and whips, was no fun.

Bears can be extremely habitual; exhibiting a certain amount of seasonal site tenacity and returning to the places their mothers raised them to feed on the foods they learned to eat as young cubs. This bear seemed to have a pattern of showing up somewhere between headquarters and the lodge and heading to the campground. It especially liked feeding on the vegetation near the beach. The bear spent considerable time near the campground and we hazed it twice from approaching and sniffing tents, but there were no incidents of any damaged gear in the campground. With help from the VIS staff, we educated campers about keeping a tidy campsite and storing extra gear in the caches, to avoid giving a curious bear any added enticements.

Our continued and concentrated effort seemed to pay off as the bear became more responsive to hazing by the end of the season. It seemed to linger less in the developed areas and was easier to move and direct. We hope with all of our combined efforts this year, that this bear will have a chance at growing into an adult bear with appropriate behaviors.

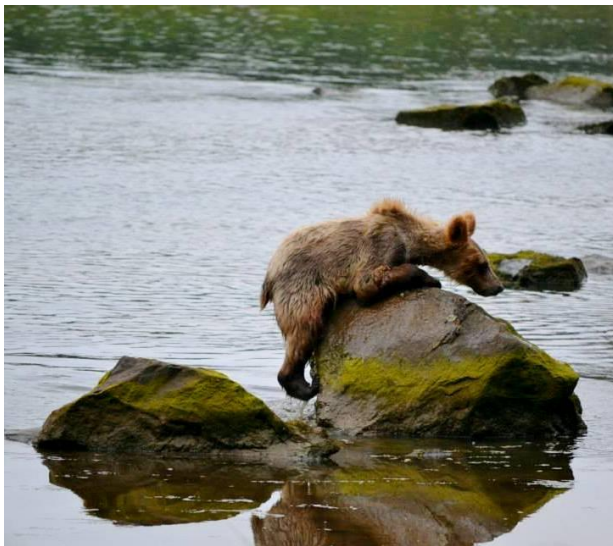


"Shaggy" models his sleek mid-summer coat. He is Shaggy no longer. Perhaps by next summer he will no longer be a subadult either?

A handful of other bears were reported and seen in the developed area but infrequently. A couple of younger black bears were seen, sometimes two together. A mother with a v-shaped blonde blaze on her chest and a larger cub were spotted in May but moved quickly through the area. A mother with three spring cubs was seen once in September. During the month of May there were 4 black bear sightings around Bartlett Cove, including Bartlett River, with activity increasing to 19 sightings June and 31 sightings in July. The activity lessened to 6 sightings in August and 13 sightings in September.

Bartlett River Bears

An adult black bear with an injured front right paw was seen frequently up the Bartlett River. The bear did not put weight on its leg throughout the summer and didn't show improvement over the course of the summer but looked healthy otherwise. Bears have been known to recover from pretty severe looking injuries. The bear generally seemed to avoid people, but once this bear managed to come up behind an unaware angler until the angler noticed and yelled and the bear moved off. This encounter serves as a good reminder to be ever vigilant of scanning your surroundings when fishing in bear country.



Brown bear cub, Bartlett River, June 19th 2013.

Bartlett River featured a minimum of three different brown bears this summer. There was a subadult brown bear and a mom with a yearling cub (likely the same sow with a spring cub seen once last year). Since the first sighting of a brown bear in the Gustavus forelands in 2010, the Bartlett River has had a number of brown bears pass through. The wave of brown bears in the forelands is believed to represent a second wave of colonization of brown bears to southern Glacier Bay.

The sow and cub were spotted around the Bartlett River from mid-July to the beginning of August. The bears utilized the same area for fishing as the anglers did and reports from anglers suggest that the two coexisted peacefully. There was only one

reported encounter where an angler was surprised by the bears close by. After the angler gathered his fish, the bears went to smell the area he had been fishing and then followed him for 10 minutes, possibly following the fish scent. Overall, the family group seemed somewhat wary of humans and kept their distance. People should do the same and give bears their space and avoid encounters when possible. Female brown bears may defend their cubs when they feel threatened. The sow and cub were seen pursuing and catching salmon and also seen eating fish entrails. Someone reported seeing the cub actually catch a fish!

NPS staff monitored the river to ensure angler compliance with fishing regulations, including some unique requirements for anglers on the Bartlett River. Since the Bartlett River is a slow flowing river, fish carcasses may not be disposed of, except for guts and gills. The remnants of a fillet could provide enough of a food reward to food-condition a bear to humans with fish. The park also requires that anglers keep their fish within 6 feet of their person. These rules have hopefully helped to decrease the chance of bears associating humans with food. Indeed, incidents on the Bartlett have decreased. Anglers can help by making sure they throw their fish entrails into deeper, faster moving water. The fishing regulations are for the safety of the bears as well as the anglers to help keep the Bartlett River free of food-conditioned bears



Young brown bear sow and cub, Bartlett River, June 19th 2013. Photo by Leonie Clitherow.

Human Attractants

NPS housing- NPS employees have once again been vigilant in keeping the housing area free of attractants. The refuse shed door was diligently kept closed all summer.

Barbeque grills - Seasonal housing has two barbeque grills which were used only occasionally this year. These grills have a high potential to be an attractant to bears but fortunately they remained undisturbed. Permanent housing also has barbeque grills, one of which was knocked over by a bear. Fortunately the grill was clean and therefore the bear did not receive a food reward. We appreciate everyone's continued vigilance in cleaning grills after using them.

Lodge Housing Area - The lodge housing area looked good this year. There was no food or garbage attractants found left outside and bear resistant garbage cans were found unlatched only a few times. After the incidents in which the bear went under the staff cafeteria building, the lodge promptly cleaned up under the building and removed any potential attractants to dissuade the bear from repeating this behavior. We really appreciate their efforts.

Glacier Bay Lodge - The Glacier Bay Lodge was very cooperative in complying with our recommendations after a bear went into one of their rooms. They removed all food attractants in their housekeeping carts and brought them into the rooms. They

also kept the garbage in the rooms rather than outside the door and kept the doors closed unless they were in the room. The other area of concern was the laundry room/stock room which contains a food storage room and is in an area with less human traffic and adjacent to a natural area. We found this door open a few times and reminded the staff that the door needed to be kept closed when no one was inside. The luggage storage room was also found with the door left open a few times and reminders were well received. Of future potential concern is the luggage that may contain food left unattended in front of the lodge.

Bear Resistant Garbage Cans - The bear resistant garbage cans are an ongoing success. The subadult was seen a few times sniffing and investigating the cans by the VIS but nothing was gained. Bear techs monitored the trash cans and found the lids closed securely and no overflowing garbage. Thanks to everyone for their continued attention to closing lids securely and to maintenance for their prompt collection efforts.

VIS and Dock parking lot - There were a few incidents of kayakers packing for their trips and leaving their food unattended on the VIS porch and in the parking lot. People need to remember that bears can show up at any time and to control their food at all times. It is easy to forget that you are in bear country in a busy, developed area but bears do routinely pass there and are opportunistic and will take advantage of an easy meal.

Gustavus Bears

Both black and brown bears were reported in Gustavus. Later in the summer, there was a report of a black bear resting in someone's yard that was injured in its hind end. The bear was seen all day and the a few days later it was seen crossing the road, unable to use much of his back leg. It is unclear how this bear was injured and what the eventual outcome was for this bear. It was reported only twice. A large adult brown bear and a brown bear sow with one spring cub were seen near the road by the park boundary. There was an exciting report of a brown bear mother with a larger cub in Gustavus. A resident was walking on a private trail off Rink Creek road and was charged by the mother bear. The person had not been making noise so it is likely that it was a surprise encounter and the mother was naturally defending her cub. The person ran a short distance off a small bridge and then turned to face the bear and screamed and the bear veered off into the brush. This is a good example of how tolerant bears can be and that even if you are unable to stand your ground, the outcome can still be a positive one.

Dry Bay/Alsek Bears

There were no reports of any bear-human conflicts from rafters coming off the Alsek River, but there were a few reports from Dry Bay in the National Preserve. Dry Bay rangers Kae and Jim reported a young brown bear approaching anglers near Steve's Island on the lower East Alsek River and obtaining fish waste in June and August. One of the fishing lodges reported some close calls with guests having a bear pop out on the river bank behind them and staring at them. All encounters ended with the bear leaving when the people yelled and made noise. By monitoring the area, direct hazing of the bear, and proactive education of anglers, the rangers effectively managed the situation. By late August the majority of bears were fishing upriver from where most of the anglers were concentrated, decreasing chances of bear-human conflicts. In September, there were no more reports of bears approaching anglers.

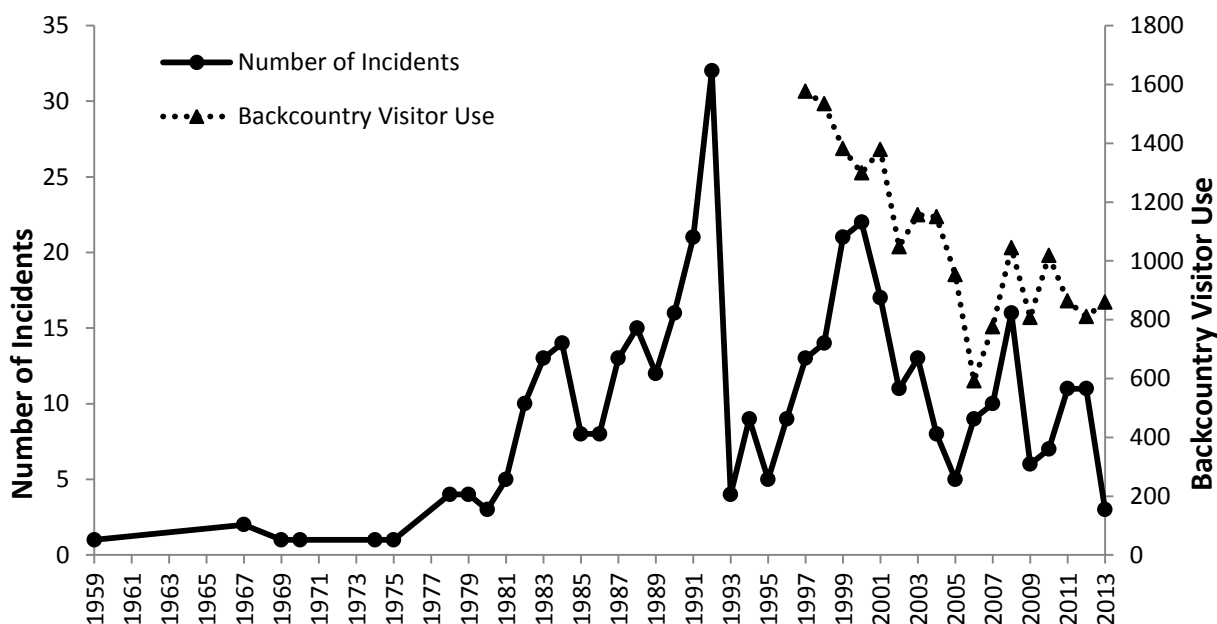
The bear may have grown out of this behavior or moved elsewhere to feed. Subadult bears are notorious for such testing behavior as they are learning about their surroundings and fortunately, unless they receive food rewards, generally stop exhibiting such behavior as they mature. There were also a couple of incidents of a fishing lodge having their burn barrel knocked over by a bear and some minor property damage of a sign.

Tania and Katja went to Dry Bay July 16 -21 to meet with residents and help mitigate bear problems, and to assist rangers with bear hazing and aversive conditioning techniques, and provide angler-bear education. Residents reported only a few bear-human conflicts, mainly involving bears and sport anglers. The bear team distributed a draft version of a bear safety for anglers brochure geared for people day fishing in the park, preserve, and surrounding areas. The rangers and residents of Dry

interactions. We have few explanations for the lack of incidents, apart from the warm sunny weather; it is possible that bears avoided beaches as travel corridors in order to avoid the heat, or perhaps food resources were so plentiful they had little use for the shoreline. Indeed, numerous experienced observers noted fewer bears were seen travelling the beaches than in previous years. Another hopeful explanation for the low number of bear-human conflicts is that the bear safety message is getting disseminated and more people are behaving properly, thus avoiding potential conflicts.

The property damage occurred in the Beardslee Islands when campers returned to their camp after a day trip and found their tent squashed. The damage was minor with a tent pole broken, and a therm-a-rest and tent fly punctured. We recommend taking down tents if you will be gone during the day to make your tent less visible and enticing to a curious bear. There were a couple of encounters in which bears did not respond immediately to people standing their ground with their gear and yelling. In one encounter, an adult brown bear hop charged a group of three kayakers who were standing by their kayaks. The kayakers' impression was that the bear "was just trying to get down the beach". The other encounters of note were a black bear sticking its head in a tent vestibule and a bear of unknown species licking rainwater off a tent fly during the night. Both these bears ran off when the people in the tents made noise.

Additionally, there was one sighting in late May of a glacier bear, a silvery grey color variant of black bear, in the Geikie Inlet Area.



Graph shows the number of Bear Human Conflicts (Incidents) over the years related to the number of visitors using the backcountry.

Advisories and Closures 2013

This year featured only one advisory resulting from the subadult black bear entering a room in the lodge. The informal advisory reminded people to report any bear sightings immediately, keep their room doors closed, stand their ground if the bear approaches directly, and to control all food and garbage. We also wrote up recommendations for the lodge operations to minimize risks of this bear obtaining human food or garbage, to avoid future bear/human conflicts, and increase safety for visitors and staff. The recommendations were to move all food, garbage and cleaning products inside the room rather than leave them on the cleaning cart outside; keeping all the doors, including the laundry room, closed when no one is present and if doors are open, that someone is in the room and aware. Since the bear had been going under buildings, we recommended checking and cleaning up potential attractants under buildings. We added a general reminder to be extra vigilant in closing gates near the kitchen and warehouse and making sure garbage can lids are securely closed.

Training and Outreach

Tania conducted a marathon of trainings in the spring about bear safety, bear management, bear research projects and results. In April, Tania gave talks to Gustavus elementary classes on bear biology and safety with scenarios and songs, and to the Gustavus middle/high school on bear ecology, genetics, and safety. She gave a talk to all employees on Safety Day and led bear spray training. She presented a talk during the seasonal training to the interpretive staff, the VIS Staff, and the kayak concession guides. She trained the law enforcement rangers, both from Dry Bay and Bartlett Cove, on bear management, hazing and aversive conditioning. Christopher gave a lively bear safety and behavior presentation to the Glacier Bay Lodge staff. Throughout the summer, the bear team informally educated people including the SAGA crew, independent research groups, and visitors, on bear safety and working in bear country, including bear spray training. Additionally, Tania presented a talk on wildlife research, biology, and safety to the public at the Lodge in August.

The bear team also created a Bear Safety for Anglers Brochure and distributed it around Gustavus, Yakutat and Dry Bay. Additionally the Glacier Bay Bear-Human Management plan was updated and revised this year.

Recent and ongoing Bear Research Projects

Glacier Bay Gustavus Forelands Black and Brown Bear Population Study

Wildlife managers often rely on population estimations to guide decisions on harvest levels of game species. Many game animals undertake seasonal migrations that cross federal and state jurisdictions, creating a shared interest in population data across multiple agencies. One such animal in northern southeast Alaska is the black bear

(*Ursus americanus*). Until recently, there have been no regional population studies on this species despite management goals of 10% harvest rates. In 2011, Glacier Bay National Park biologists, in collaboration with Kyle Pinjuv of Evergreen University and biologists from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, initiated a study to obtain black bear population information on the Gustavus Forelands. The Gustavus Forelands include park, state, and private lands surrounding and within the town of Gustavus, where black bear sport hunting and/or defense of life and property kills occur on a yearly basis. Noninvasive genetic sampling and mark-recapture methods were used from 2011-2013 to obtain a population estimate of black bears as well as a minimum number of brown bears. The population estimate of black bears was compared to the average number of harvested bears from 1990 – 2011 to determine if harvest rates fit within management goals.

Over two field seasons, researchers collected 196 hair samples from 25 rub trees and 8 baited hair traps and genetically identified 33 black bears and 14 brown bears. Using the Huggins linear logistical model in program DENSITY, the number of black bears was estimated to be 54.5 ± 10.3 (95% CI=41.6 – 84.8). The average number of black bears killed by humans annually from 1990 – 2011 was 3.68 indicating that the current harvest level is within the 10% allowable take. Continued monitoring of population and harvest rates is encouraged to allow state and federal wildlife managers to ensure black bear harvest and viewing opportunities into the future. The number of individual brown bears identified in the Gustavus Forelands was surprising because this species is rarely seen and has only recently begun using the area after a 50 year absence. Information from this study has led to increased community outreach regarding brown bear behavior and safety.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the park staff, the lodge staff, and park visitors for keeping us informed on bear activity and for a successful summer!

Special thanks to the VIS staff for calling us with bear sightings, keeping track of us in the backcountry, and keeping a log of bear reports; to the Law Enforcement rangers for helping us with bear management and covering on our days off; to the fisheries crew for their reports of bear activity on the Bartlett River; to the Interpretation staff for their bear safety messages, reports from visitors, and assistance with brochures and advisories; to the Dry Bay Rangers for their bear management and keeping us informed. Thanks to the Bear Committee for their help with bear management issues and to our boat captain Todd Bruno for getting us safely in and out of the field. Thanks to the lodge staff for their willingness to adapt their housekeeping routines.

A big thank you to everyone for reporting their bear sightings and encounters!

The Bicycling Bear Team!



Yet another year goes by where the Bear Team promotes health, exercise, and sustainability! The Bicycling Bear Team has reduced its motor vehicle usage as much as possible, utilizing bicycles and kayaks for research and daily management. Our motto is "Burn Calories, not Petroleum!" Christopher's BOB trailer provides the approximate cargo capacity of an SUV, plus or minus a few square feet. The Bear Team is ludicrously committed to safety, and wears bike helmets constantly, including in the office or on the computer. Christopher's helmet features the enlarged eyes of the *Haematopus bachmani*, or Black Oystercatcher, so as to avoid predation by the *Puma concolor*, which is extending its range and may possibly arrive in Bartlett Cove someday soon. Tania is here seen with her pet hybrid gull, "Glockie" and her favorite bear-hazing tool, the "bull-whip." Christopher is holding his preferred bear management tool, the super-soaker pistol. Katja is looking on in bemused horror, as she often does at team meetings.

Christopher Behnke: Wildlife Biological Technician

Christopher is completing his fourth season with Glacier Bay National Park. He is currently a graduate student with the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where he teaches Environmental Ethics, forlornly rides his bicycle 20 miles every day at -40F, and stares at computers dejectedly. He is in the Resilience and Adaptation Program. He plays fiddle, guitar, and Dandelion Bagpipes. He likes bears, bicycles, cameras, kayaks and old time-music, and believes that Wilderness requires Wildness to retain its meaning. His favorite quote is: "A Foolish Consistency is the Hobgoblin of Little Minds" -Emerson.



Katja Mocnik: Wildlife Biological Technician

Katja is an ursineophile with a wealth of experience in bear behavior and management. She joined the GLBA Bear Team this year from Katmai, where she worked for seven seasons as a Bear Tech with those world-famous brown bears. She is adapting well to the endless rain of Southeast, especially since it has not rained since she arrived. We won't let her go, just in case.

Tania Lewis, Wildlife Biologist

Little needs to be said about Tania, except that she's an outlier from the outskirts of town where she lives in a homemade house with her handsome hubbie and darling daughter. When Tania isn't whipping sub-adults into maturity, clambering through seabird colonies counting eggs, writing research proposals and reports, or slogging through unnecessarily complex management meetings; she likes to travel in the wild, garden, frail her banjo, sail the sea, and make really fancy food.



If you see him or ANY bear in the Bartlett Cove area, or if you have an interaction with a bear ANY where, please inform the Visitor Information Station (697-2627).

Thank you for keeping a clean camp!!!

Bear Incidents/Encounters 2013

DATE	LOCATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT/Encounter	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
7/1/2013	Glacier Bay Lodge "Maze"	Subadult black bear entered Lodge visitor room while housekeeper was cleaning but absent, with door open. No food was procured. Bear was monitored and hazed from area.	Informal Advisory, Signage, Recommendations to lodge, Increased Bear Management.
6/3/2013	Adams Inlet	3 campers saw a large adult brown bear, possibly male, walking in the intertidal zone towards them. They had set up tents and their BRFC's were up the beach. They went and stood by their kayaks at the waterline. The people started yelling and making noise, and the bear continued to approach. At about 200 feet the brown bear hop charged twice, the people went and stood behind their kayaks, and the bear then veered up and around them into the forest. The groups impression was that the bear was "just trying to get down the beach and we were in the way"	No response. Normal behavior for dominant adult male brown bear.
6/24/2013	Beardslee Islands	Young black bear, "rusty side shoulder" and "grey muzzle" was feeding in intertidal while group of 2+ ate dinner. Bear did not interact with people, slowly left. Bear was feeding near tents a few hours later. Group yelled at the bear and it "wasn't concerned" and slowly walked away. An hour later the bear stuck its head inside a vestibule. Camper screamed, and bear ran away. It fed near a different tent for a bit and was yelled at but did not respond. Bear slowly wandered off feeding. Did not acquire food, did not bother bear cans or damage any gear.	No response. Normal subadult behavior. Good response by campers.
7/13/2013	Sandy beach across from Sealers Island	Group of 3 campers saw adult brown bear heading down beach toward camp. Bear fed on strawberries, when bear fed to 25 feet, campers yelled and flapped tarp. Bear continued to feed and campers blew airhorn, bear did not overtly respond but left area and swam away	No response. Normal behavior, bear feeding, displaying tolerance for such close proximity to campers.
7/16/2013	Bartlett River	Angler had caught a fish and clubbed it when he saw a brown bear with yearling about 20 feet away. He picked up the fish and slowly walked away. The bear sniffed the ground where the fish had been and then followed the angler. The bear followed the angler for ten minutes until angler got into the woods.	No response. Camper did not stand ground and retreated, perhaps causing the bear to follow the scent of submissive behavior and fish.
8/8/2013	Beardslee Islands	Campers left tents up while they left camp for a day trip. Upon return, a bear had squashed the tent, broke pole, punctured thermarest, punctured fly. No bear was seen. Campers were gone for 5 hours, leaving camp unprotected, and tent left standing. No food acquired, bear cans undisturbed.	No response. Normal curious bear behavior for unprotected camp.